

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 17, as follows:

The present invention addresses the above disadvantages. Thus, it is an objective of the present invention to provide a solenoid valve, which provides improved magnetic attractive force for attracting a slider. It is another objective of the present invention to provide a solenoid valve capable of reducing a chance of introducing debris and ~~dusts~~ dust between a slider and a non-magnetic body without causing a reduction in magnetic attractive force for attracting the slider.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at page 5, line 21 – page 6, line 11, as follows:

In the above arrangement, the slider can be replaced with a slider, which is axially reciprocable and includes a communication passage that extends through the slider generally along a central axis of the slider. The communication passage of the slider is communicated with at least one first side space located on first axial side of the slider and is also communicated with at least one second side space located on second axial side of the slider. Furthermore, the first stator segment of the above arrangement can be ~~replaced~~ replaced with a first stator segment, which includes an attracting portion. The attracting portion is axially opposed to the slider and attracts the slider in the second axial direction upon generation of the magnetomotive force by the coil. Also, the second stator segment can be replaced with a second stator segment, which forms a magnetic circuit in cooperation with the slider and the first stator segment and includes a tubular portion. The tubular portion of the second stator segment is at least partially placed radially outward of the slider.